

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 2, without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

B¹ -- 1. (Amended) A spotting pin used for spotting a reagent on a plate, which comprises a solid member, wherein the solid member has at least one recess at a tip thereof.

B₂ 5. (Amended) The spotting pin of claim 1, wherein the recess comprises a radially-extended groove.

7. (Amended) A device for producing a biochip comprising probes spotted on a plate, said device comprising a solid spotting pin having a tip wherein the tip comprises at least one recess. --

B₄ [Please add the following new claims:]

-- 8. (NEW) The spotting pin of claim 1, wherein the solid member comprises a concave tip with a cross-shaped groove.

9. (NEW) The spotting pin of claim 1, wherein the solid member comprises a flat tip with a cross-shaped groove.

10. (NEW) The spotting pin of claim 9, wherein the recess comprises two V-shaped notches crossing each other. --